

The Ansgar Lutheran

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ay at Home

And Meet Yourself

By M. Robert Beasley

ay-at-home is a term commonly for the person who must stay home—who has no choice. One is immediately of the aged and m, the shut-ins, the anti-social le.

t there is an art to staying at e. And a good many of us— of aimless visiting, too much ying and strenuous journeys to no-e in particular—would like to ice it.

ere is a Hindu proverb which "You grow only when you are e." While most of us are willing ncede that this may be true, we how never get around to enjoying lost art of just staying at home. e kind of home we have, its or its significance, is really of t importance. None of us needs ulted temple for gracious living. are there any hard-and-fast rules this. Some find that ceremony —customs that lend dignity and rtance to routine.

ce my car ran out of gas in Connecticut hills, and when I ked at a farmhouse door, I found tired broker wearing a dinner et, eating by himself. It was a , and he said it seemed to make s more important.

e young couple I know had the ice of reading aloud to each oth- om current books.

family I often visit enjoys phono- n records after dinner several s each week.

other couple in my circle of ac- ntance find complete solace with ictionary and the encyclopedia.

family of four who are very close e have set aside one evening a for reading aloud from the Bible,

each member taking his turn.

Such practices are commendable, but they do not get to the heart of the matter. It is essential to understand, first of all, that a man's house is his castle—a refuge where he can do what he will. Probably the first move for any of us in mastering the art of staying at home is to build up fortifications which make home a place of privacy and precious solitude.

Why not begin with a schedule of privacy as rigid as your social calendar, and stick with it at all costs. It is not stretching out the truth too far, when someone calls up and asks if you are doing anything that evening, to say that you are—even if you intend only to read that book you have put off for six months.

And it can be gently suggested to friends that on certain nights you are simply not at home to anyone but yourself and your family. Nights in are just as important as nights out; indeed, the former add endless zest to the latter.

Yet so few of us will pull up the drawbridge at sunset! We are like the woman Arnold Bennett wrote about who was alive only in public. Our days and our nights are spent in being in public, or in preparing to be in public, or in recovering from the effects of being in public.

Thoreau, in one of his lightning flashes, pointed out that "Society is commonly too cheap. We meet at short intervals, not having had time to acquire any new value for each other. We meet at meals three times a day, and give each other a new taste of that old, musty cheese that we are. We have had to agree on a certain set of rules, called etiquette

A quiet evening at home has much to offer that the gadabout misses.

and politeness, to make this frequent meeting tolerable. We live thick and stumble over one another."

Intuitively recognizing that he must find solitude to discover himself, the philosopher moved to a one-room cabin by a cove, undisturbed except by the sounds of nature. Alone, he did find himself. His mind flowered and his pen brought his beautiful creative ability to the world.

Once you have the idea of the home as a refuge, the change wrought in your activities is automatic. Then comes quite naturally the will to be yourself. You begin to learn the pleasures of voluntary confinement—of taking the veil in the quietness of your own house.

There is nothing anti-social about this attitude. "Our first duty to society," the Abbe Dimnet once said, "is to be somebody—that is to say, be ourselves; and we can only be ourselves if we are often enough by ourselves."

The first concrete thing likely to result from staying at home is the discovery that you are doing something you have always wanted to do. One couple have spent the past few months making a private guide-book for a trip they plan one day to take through Europe. Another couple have been spending their evenings classifying the negatives of hundreds of pictures snapped in the days when they roamed freely.

There is something you want to do; but you will never do it until you learn to stay at home. Maybe you have always wanted to learn French. Or you like geography. Or you think you can write, or draw, or do something with sculpture, or make and refinish furniture.

(Continued on page 13)

News and Notes

Dr. Hans C. Jersild knighted by Danish King. Dr. Jersild, pastor of Salem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., was recently honored when King Frederik of Denmark gave him the Cross of Dannebrog.

We congratulate!

Sidney, Mont. The Pella Ladies Aid has organized its one hundred members into five circles. Each circle has a definite responsibility for the year. They are Charities and nursery, Christian Education, Missions, Christian Nurture and an Altar Circle. The monthly general meetings will be continued for this year while the circles are in the trial stage.

Fremont, Nebr. The First Lutheran Congregation will dedicate its new church Sunday April 7 with services at 11:00 A.M. and the actual dedication service at 3 P.M. The Rev. Archie L. Madsen is pastor of the congregation. The building project will amount to \$285,000 which includes the new church site and the parsonage. The baptized membership is 787. The past two years the congregation had a net gain of 107 members.

Oakland California. Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Pastor Sidney E. Jorgensen. On Feb. 10, the congregation of our church had a dinner honoring the new members of 1956. There was a good turnout. The congregation visited the new home of Pastor and Mrs. Jorgensen at a housewarming on Sunday afternoon Feb. 24th. A gift of money was presented to Pastor and Mrs. Jorgensen. The parsonage is now located at 24613 Broadmore Avenue, Hayward.

The ladies of our church have organized the Women of the Church Plan. We are now divided into 5 circles, two meeting in the afternoon, and three meeting in the evening.

AN AGED COUPLE SUMMONED

Falmouth, Maine. A very unusual and yet a blessed event happened in Falmouth, Maine a few weeks ago. Mr. and Mrs. John Fabricius (92 and 91) years aged, were talking about

celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary on February 20th, 1957. However God thought it different.

Mr. Fabricius died suddenly the day before their anniversary and Mrs. Fabricius had a slight stroke the day before and died 5 minutes before 12 p.m. on the 20th of February, not knowing that her husband had already passed into eternity.

They were both charter members of the Emmaus Lutheran Church, Falmouth, Maine. A double Service was held in the church on Feb. 23rd.

Mr. and Mrs. Fabricius were the parents of two daughters, Mrs. Howard Petersen and Mrs. Maynard Aaskov; also four sons and the grand-parents of Mrs. Richard Videbeck, Lincoln, Nebr. and Mrs. Arthur Sorensen, Salt Lake City, Utah. Blessed be their memory.

J.P.M.M.

FOREIGN MISSION FILMS

The Board of Foreign Missions of the U.E.L.C. extend a cordial invitation to all organizations, especially Sunday Schools and Luther League Groups to use the slides and films covering the various Missions promoted by our Synod. A complete catalogue was published in the August 13, 1956 issue, The Ansgar Lutheran. For immediate information you may contact the following.

"The Colombia Mission", Rev. K. R. Jensen, Viborg, S. D.

"The Sudan Mission", Rev. N. B. Hansen, Poy Sippi, Wis.

"The Santal Mission", The Santal Mission, 803 Phoenix Building, Mpls. 1.

"The Japan Mission," The United Lutheran Publishing House, 1228 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pa.—860 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.—3103 W. 6th St., Los Angeles 5, Calif.

All our Visual Aid material is intended especially to create interest and love for the various missions promoted by our church, and also to extend an invitation to the young people to heed the call, "Come over and help us."

The Rev. Archie L. Madsen, Fremont, Nebraska, was named delegate to the Lutheran World Council on Social

Responsibility to be held at Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, August 12-16, at a meeting of the executive Board of the Lutheran World Council of Nebraska here March 1. The Rev. Mr. Madsen serves the Council as President this year. The Council on Social Responsibility is being held in conjunction with and prior to the Third Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation, scheduled for August 14-25 at Minneapolis.

Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Oluf Jorgensen, one of the pioneers in the founding of Salem Danish Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, and a faithful member and staunch supporter of the church all his life, passed away on February 25, 1957 at his home, 1932 52nd Street, Brooklyn. A memorial service was held at the Herbst Funeral Home, 5th Avenue at 75th Street, on February 27, 1957. H. C. Jersild, pastor of Salem Church officiated at the service. Mr. Jorgensen was a veteran of the Spanish American War, and among the last throng of mourners present were surviving members of his regiment who attended in a body to pay their respects. Mr. Wm. Kent, the chaplain of the group, delivered a moving speech in honor of their departed comrade.

Mr. Jorgensen will be greatly missed in Salem. The memory of his flagging enthusiasm and energy in all phases of church work, his never failing kindness, and his friendly smile will linger long among us. He was one of the sturdy pillars of the church and we shall not see his like again.

Mrs. Marie Christoffersen, a long member of Salem Danish Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, passed away on March 2, 1957, at the home of her son, Mr. Hans C. Christoffersen, Montague Street, Brooklyn. Mrs. Christoffersen was also a member of the Salem Ladies' Aid Society to which she gave loyal support during all her active years. A memorial service was held on Monday, March 4th, at the Herbst Funeral Home, 5th Avenue at 75th Street, Brooklyn. The service was conducted by Dr. H. C. Jersild, pastor of the church. Mrs. Carl Christoffersen sang a Danish hymn, which Mrs. Christoffersen had asked to have sung at her funeral, and which Mrs. Christoffersen had sung many times.

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Otto H. Stave, Business Manager. Subscription price: United States and Canada, \$3.00 per year in advance; foreign countries, \$4.00. Everything pertaining to the Youth Department should be sent to Rev. John W. Nielsen, 316 N. Plum St., Northfield, Minn. A special rate of \$2.00 per year is offered Bible classes and organizations of the church when ten or more copies are sent to one address, and \$2.00 of address, advertisements and all communications pertaining to the Business Department should be sent to the Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr. When CHANGE OF ADDRESS is desired give old as well as new address. Entered as second class matter, December 14, 1934 at the Post Office at Blair, Nebraska, under Act of March 3, 1879.

Editorials and Comments

U.L.C.A. and Augustana Merger Plans

commission, representing four Lutheran church which are discussing merger into a single new took first steps toward bringing about union, gan writing a documentary basis for the new structure at Chicago, March 11th.

commission represents the 2,270,000-member Lutheran Church in America, the 536,000-member Augustana Lutheran Church, the 35,000-member Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (Suomi) and the 20,000-member American Evangelical Church (of Danish background).

their first step, the commissioners received a preliminary statement on doctrine and "the Word of God and the Confessions," which the JCLU agreed would be the basis for the writing of the doctrinal statement in the constitution of the new church.

sub-committees of the committee on organizational structure also presented preliminary reports to the commission. A statement on powers and functions of the church body, delimiting areas of responsibility between the central church body and its subordinate constituent units was presented.

second sub-committee reported on proposals for geographical boundaries of the constituent units—to be organized as conferences, districts or synods.

discussion about a map of 33 possible geographical areas for constituent units in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean area took up most of one day at the commission meeting. The Commissioners divided on support of the proposed map and for proposals that larger regional units be set up, reducing the number of constituent units to around 20.

as indicated that two of the merging churches, the American Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Augustana Synod, might be brought into the new church as territorial synods. In the present structure of the Lutheran Church there are three non-territorial synods: Wartburg, Slovak Zion and Icelandic.

the commission decided to refer the matter of geographical boundaries back to the sub-committee for further study and report at the next general meeting of JCLU in August, Sept. 18, 19 and 20.

Joint Commission on Lutheran Unity approved preliminary drafts of statements on the ministry, seminaries and colleges. Responsibility in these areas will be shared in the constituent units, with shared authority delegated to the central church body.

sub-committees were authorized for a study of the powers and duties of officers of the new church as well as the interim executive body, and for a judiciary. Delegates took action on a resolution to set up a committee to study the number, nomenclature and duties of administrative boards in the new church structure.

A eight-point doctrinal statement had been drafted as a basis for an article on beliefs in the constitution of the new church. The commission was in agreement

generally on the document, and its summary, which was declared:

"We affirm that the saving Gospel transmitted by the Holy Scriptures and witnessed by the creeds and confessions is the true treasure of the church, the substance of its proclamation, and the basis of its unity and continuity through the ages. Through His Holy Spirit God uses the Church's witness to the Gospel to create Christian faith and fellowship. When this occurs the Church fulfills its divine mission and purpose."

PROFESSORS AND CHURCH EXECUTIVES

At the PTR which was held in Northwest Iowa recently the discussion among the pastors brought out a great many things. A Preaching-Teaching-Reaching mission gets down to the basic things in the life of the church: Preaching so that people can really understand it, winning new people for the church, training the members to be witnesses and to call on new people.

It was suggested that there is always a danger that the church executives get out of touch with the real life of the congregations. They are always concerned with the administration of the larger body, which is made up of the basic elements of the church, the congregations. Someone suggested that the executives should spend one year every so often in regular congregational work. The theological professors should also have sabbatical leaves and be compelled to spend such a year in a congregation.

The suggestion was also made that the district presidents should have their office limited to about ten years in order that they might not get out of touch with congregational life.

We believe the suggestions are worthy of consideration.

DANISH PASTOR STUDIES CHURCH LIFE IN U.S.A.

Pastor Julius Hougaard of Aarhus, Denmark, is at present studying Lutheran church life in America. The Lutheran World Federation has arranged an exchange of full time church workers among Lutheran churches throughout the world. The exchange program pays the round trip fare of the worker to the country where the worker goes. The worker must be sponsored by some church or congregation in the country chosen by the worker. The worker gets five months leave in which to do the studying. The sponsoring church pays the board and room of the worker.

Pastor Hougaard is sponsored by Hope Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn. He will be there four months. One month is used for the round trip. He has a chance to observe how the free church operates in this country. He assists in visiting and calling and he tries to learn our ways of evangelism and stewardship.

He has recently spent five days at the editor's home at Spencer, Iowa, observing a Preaching-Teaching-Reaching mission. Bethany Lutheran Church at Spencer was the headquarters for this mission these five days, and

(Concluded on page 15)

Church News from here and there

CHICAGO STATION TO SHOW 'MARTIN LUTHER' FILM

Station WBKB, the American Broadcasting Company's Chicago affiliate, has agreed to show the controversial film "Martin Luther."

The movie earlier had been scheduled, then cancelled, by Station WGN-TV which said it had received a flood of letters protesting showing of the film.

Sterling C. Quinlan, vice-president of WBKB, said the movie would be televised on April 23. He said the same sponsor that scheduled the show on WGN-TV would pay the WBKB bill, estimated at \$10,000.

WBKB's announcement was applauded by Dr. John Harms and the Rev. Victor Rickman, chairman and press representative respectively of the Action Committee for Freedom of Religious Expression. The committee comprises representatives of more than 40 Protestant and civic groups. It recently filed a brief with the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D. C., requesting a public hearing into the banning of the film by Station WGN-TV.

AMERICAN NEGRO EVANGELIST DRAWS BIG CROWDS IN AFRICA

An American Negro Protestant pastor has been drawing large crowds since he arrived in West Africa in mid-January for a four-months' evangelistic campaign in Liberia, Gold Coast and Nigeria.

He is the Rev. Howard O. Jones, of Smoot Memorial church, Cleveland, O., who undertook the campaign at the invitation of the Sudan Interior Mission. Thirty-five years old, he was playing in a jazz troupe when he was attracted to religion 17 years ago.

In Liberia, Mr. Jones was entertained at a State banquet by President William V. Tubman, who thanked for the spiritual help he had given the Negro republic. Later in

Gold Coast, he met and talked to students in the colleges and made a big "hit" with them.

A smallpox epidemic threatened to cancel Mr. Jones' meetings in Lagos. However, crowds flocked to the gatherings every night for two weeks after it was announced that, as a precaution, health officers would inspect each individual attending for vaccination marks.

NIEBUHR WARNS AGAINST REDUCING CHURCH TO 'COMMUNITY OF CHUMMINESS'

Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, graduate professor of ethics and theology at Union Theological Seminary, New York, said the Protestant Church "is always tempted to reduce itself from a community of grace to a community of neighborly chumminess."

The theologian said that in the Christian religion "there is always a conflict with the Christian gospel and idolatrous religion. There is a natural inclination for a minister to equate what he wants to do with God's will."

Dr. Niebuhr addressed some 105 students from 35 colleges attending a Conference on the Ministry for College Men. The meeting, held at the seminary, was designed for college men who are undecided about their vocations.

He pointed out to the students some of the dangers and opportunities of the Christian ministry.

In this world of "great scientific achievement," Dr. Niebuhr said, there is a temptation to regard the Christian story "as something of a past generation irrelevant to this age."

"It is the minister's challenge to relate the perennial truths of the Gospel to the new truths of each new age," he added.

Dr. Paul Tillich, a member of the Harvard Divinity School faculty, told the students that Americans today have a tendency "to settle down, to accept the middle of the road,

to be afraid of asking radical questions."

He said business leaders come that if they get applications for higher positions, the question "can I get ahead?" is not asked. Instead, he said, applicants want to know "What is my retirement tract?"

Dr. Tillich warned that "thisism of world" can corrupt religion into a tool to be used for accommodating oneself to the prevailing order of groups in society.

"When I hear a phrase like 'I need religion in order to understand our culture,' something in me explodes because then religion is defined as a definition abused," he said. "Religion used for something else which is not religion and which results in the destruction or perversion."

URGES CHURCH DESIGNS: TWENTIETH CENTURY WORSHIPPERS

American churches cannot continue to be guinea pigs for architectural experiments. They must be edifices that reflect the 20th century Christian living, church architects, artists and church building leaders from all over the country were told by a leading architect at the National Joint Conference on Church Architecture Sessions ended last week after four days of workshops and discussions.

Dr. Arland A. Dirlam of Boston, general chairman of the conference, declared that church designers must catch the pulse of the people of the present great church building boom—that reached an all-time high of \$773,000,000 in 1956—and build true houses of worship.

Dirlam was twin keynoter with the Rev. Dr. C. Harry Atkins of New York, editor of "Protestant Church Administration and Development" at the annual sessions of this year in St. Louis, Mo., 26-28.

Dr. Atkinson and Dirlam were in agreement on the need that the church be "in the world, but not of it." A church that looks like a gas station or a supermarket with a cross attached is no proper place for worship, Dr. Atkinson said.

t.
h more youngsters going to
ay School than ever before and
more parents needing help
their small ones, while they
d services, cribs for the care
ants are becoming standard
ment in many churches, as-
l the Rev. Dr. John R. Scot-
interim director of the Na-
Council of Churches' Depart-
of Church Building.
e department, together with the
h Architectural Guild of
ica, were co-sponsors of the
rence. Dr. William Kincaid
nan, of New York, was named
er of the coveted Elbert M.
ver award for his outstanding
tribution to better church archi-
re in 1956. Dr. Newman, a
er, has been secretary of the
h Building Department of the
l of Home Missions, Congre-
al and Christian Churches in
York since 1937.
the third successive year the
emporary style of church archi-
re took honors in the annual
ls announced by the Church
tectural Guild.

MISSOURI SYNOD STUDIES LAY FULL-TIME WORKER TRAINING

Study of the possibilities for train-
ing of lay workers for full-time
parish work is going ahead in six
areas, a leader of The Lutheran
Church-Missouri Synod said this
week.

Rev. Dr. Oscar E. Feucht, secre-
tary of adult education for the
church body said an 18-member
Planning Commission for a Full-
Time Bible Institute is looking into
establishment of a full-time institute
for training of lay workers.

Being studied are the demand for
such workers, and their probable
function in foreign and domestic
mission work; nature and scope of
the necessary training; curriculum,
staff and entrance requirements; in-
tegration of training with the
synod's existing educational pro-
gram; finance, management and con-
trol; and pilot studies already under
way within the synod.

Presumably, Dr. Feucht said, the
lay workers could be placed in work
involving evangelism, education, and

foreign missions. Training would in-
clude Biblical and doctrinal study
and technical training in witnessing
and teaching.

CLERGY ASK PRESIDENT HELP QUELL ANTI-NEGRO ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH

Six prominent Protestant and
Roman Catholic clergymen asked
President Eisenhower to exert
"stronger leadership" in quelling
anti-Negro activities in the South.

They appealed to the President in
a statement made public by the
Interracial Review, official publica-
tion of the Catholic Interracial
Council in New York.

The statement deplored the "re-
crudescence" of the Ku Klux Klan,
movements organized for "spreading
high-power white supremacy prop-
aganda," and the dissemination of
printed material calculated to arouse
hate and incite to violence.

"We feel that the proper authori-
ties both state and federal, should
look much more closely into this
disturbing situation," the clergymen
said. "The emergence of violence
and hate is a problem that concerns
the entire nation."

Signers of the statement were Dr.
Eugene Carson Blake, president of
the National Council of Churches;
Protestant Episcopal Bishop Angus
Dun of Washington, D. C.; Dr.
Reinhold Niebuhr, vice-president of
Union Theological Seminary, New
York; the Rev. John LaFarge, S.J.,
associate editor of America, Jesuit
weekly review; Dr. Liston Pope,
dean of Yale University Divinity
School; and Dr. James H. Robinson,
pastor of the Church of the Master
here.

"Now that our Vice President is
extending the greetings of the A-
merican people to the newly born
Republic of Ghana (Gold Coast),"
the clergymen said, "it would be
unfortunate if the impression was
conveyed to this Negro nation, as-
suming for the first time its full
political responsibilities, that our
government was indifferent to the
situation of its own Negro citizens."

ALL SUNSHINE MAKES SAHARA

By Kirby Page

sunshine makes Sahara," runs an
proverb. Storms bring rain
nourishes seed in the soil. Jesus
ot come to this earth to bring
and freedom from toil; he came to
men bear their burdens, share
others, love mercy, and walk
y with their God. He promised
sciples that they would experi-
much joy, the joy of fidelity to
ill of God. With equal vigor he
sed them much pain, the suffering
flows from faithfulness in a sin-
neration
d again these familiar words:
he began to teach them that it
inevitable that the Son of Man
go through much suffering and
pletely repudiated by the elders
chief priests and scribes, and be
and after three days rise again.
ld them all this quite bluntly.
is made Peter draw him on one

side and take him to task about what
he had said. But Jesus turned and fac-
ed his disciples and rebuked Peter. 'Out
of my way, Satan!' he said. 'Peter, you
are not looking at things from God's
point of view, but from man's!' Then
he called his disciples and the people
around him, and said to them, 'If any-
one wants to follow in my footsteps,
he must give up all right to himself,
take up his cross and follow me.' " A-
gain, "I have said this to you, that in
me you may have peace. In the world
you have tribulation; but be of good
cheer, I have overcome the world."

Narrow is the road, and strait the
gate that leads to life glorious. What
often appears to be foolishness in God's
point of view turns out to be the es-
sence of wisdom, and what seems to be
weakness in God is found to be the
the strength we need.

—Gospel Messenger

The Washington Observer

By Gerhard Lenski

"MAKE ALL THE MONEY YOU CAN"

We Americans made more money, spent more money and saved more money last year than we ever did in all our history. So says the Department of Commerce in its most recent report. Total personal incomes totaled more than \$325 billion; expenditures totaled nearly \$266 billion. There was a tidy savings total of nearly \$21 billion. All these represent historical highs.

Did these same prosperous Americans give more to church and charity than ever before? Complete figures in this category are not yet available, but partial reports indicate that they did. Lutherans, to be sure, have not been heading the list of this nation's most generous givers and there is reason to expect that they will not be doing so any time soon. The best that can be said for them is that they are improving in their over-all giving in a very consistent way. Pleasing as all this is, there is still plenty of room for the application of John Wesley's well formulated rule which says: "Make all the money you can. Save all the money you can. Give all the money you can."

What about tomorrow's finances? Will all continue to go well? No one is wise enough to predict with certainty. However, there is a kind of consensus of opinion that the present upward spiral cannot continue and that a leveling off of some sort is next in order. Your commentator inclines to accept the prediction of the business man who said: "No, not a depression like that of 1929. Rather a gradual recession and that only for a while." In any event he feels it will always be in

order to follow John Wesley's advice.

THE NATION'S HEALTH

The American people, as a nation, are enjoying good health. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare, offers us the good news that the national death rate is now 9.3 for every 1,000 persons. This rate is said to be very low and is likely to be lowered still more in the near future. All of which, in other terms, means that the life span of the average man is being lengthened. Yes, you can confidently expect to live longer than your forefathers did. Arriving at the age of 65, the average man can now expect to live at least 13 years more, 8 years more than the Biblical three score and ten.

One reason for this improvement is to be found in our improved medical facilities. Our doctors are better than they were. A number of diseases, once quite deadly, have been brought under control. Among these are tuberculosis, typhoid, diabetes, and polio. A number of others, still deadly, are being studied with care—cancer, heart disease, leukemia, multiple sclerosis and others. The expectation is that medical skill will soon be able to apply to them correctives and controls still eagerly awaited and sorely needed.

A further helpful factor in the case is our national prosperity coupled with our government's concern for us. Uncle Sam is really health minded. The vast resources of the nation are being mobilized in the interest of the nation's health

and diseases regarded as important are now being dealt with in a realistic manner. One might call this a form of socialized medicine. However you designate it, the fact is that all benefits are already so manifest and come so close home to us all that every thoughtful person should be deeply grateful.

PAYING THE DOCTOR

While the health of the nation continues to improve, medical costs continue to rise. Along with this comes a rising tide of competition

The American Medical Association, perhaps in self-defense, points out that our government spends on its health and medical programs about \$2.5 billions a year, an average of \$54.61 per person. While this sum is high, we are not to believe that it is paid fearfully or cheerfully than the vast sum being spent by individuals to get out the land seeking health help at the hands of their physicians.

The disturbing factor involved lies in the fact that, with all our prosperity, with all our social effort and government spending, there are still so many deprived of medical care in illness for lack of funds with which to pay. Today some 10 million people have hospital insurance, 96 million have surgical insurance, and 63 million have medical insurance. (United States and World Almanac, 1954) All this is wonderful and represents a great improvement over the past. But good as it is, there are still millions who are unprotected. Many of these happen to be the ones who need protection the most.

It is at this point that the Christian feeling and understanding must enter in. It is for the Christian to view the larger picture and be concerned to widen the circle of help now available and to help the needy and often more thoughtless to find ways and means to obtain hospitalization when needed and to pay that thumping big doctor when it becomes due.

UT ON THEN

By Paul Keller

For ten years I have walked around this particular portion of scripture. It has made me uncomfortable. The discomfort has not come from the fact that we are asked to be on compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience . . . that we are to be forgiving and loving "forgiving one another . . ." nor that we are to be thankful, "in all that we do . . . do it to the glory of God". All this is good.

What then has been the source of concern in these words of St. Paul? The core of the concern is that he is able to make demands upon people just as though it were possible for them to do something about it. In other words, is it really folly to ask a person, or demand that a person forgive his enemies? Isn't it true that there are just a whole lot of people who are not able to do these things? And, if they are unable to do them, then what is the sense in making demands upon them?

This brings us to an interesting question of primary importance. Where does the responsibility for one's behavior begin and end?

For centuries men have been concerned with the matter of free will and determinism. Simply stated, this concern is directed toward the question of whether or not man has the freedom to make choices and do things. If we are prone to regard this question as one of little importance I might point out that Martin Luther was also very concerned about the problem. He wrote a thesis titled "The Bondage of the Will. Luther knew that nature-man is actually in Bondage, that he can't make decisions about certain things (viz., follow the mandates of the Gospel).

The "Determinist" (in his most grotesque form) will hold the point of view that actually man has very little, if any range within which he is able to choose for or against anything. To illustrate: If you like strawberry rather than blueberry jam it is not because you made a choice to like one and not the other. Rather, your taste buds were so constituted (determined) that you were left without a choice. This is not difficult to imagine, namely, that you cannot exercise choice. But let us take another situation. Let us suppose that a fellowman of yours has wronged you grievously. Then he has a change of heart and comes to you for forgiveness. Can you forgive him? The determinist would say that maybe you can and maybe you can't. But you "can't" say "I will forgive you" there is nothing you can do about it. There is nothing you can do about it, he would say, because all of your past training, your physical constitution and many other factors have already determined that you can or can't do this thing viz., say, "I will forgive you".

Now, if what the determinist says is true, then it is difficult to see where a person can be held responsible for what he does or does not do. If an individual is "pre-determined" as to what he can or cannot do, then it follows that it would be foolish for someone like Jesus or St. Paul to say . . . "Do this or that".

And yet both Jesus and St. Paul make many admonitions. "Love one another . . . Love one another . . . Pray for those who persecute you etc." Either Jesus and Paul knew something about human nature, or they knew something that the determinist does not know, for Jesus regarded it as a fact that under certain conditions man is able to change or be

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forgiving one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Col. 3:12-17.

changed . . . "unforgiving to forgiving", etc. There are many illustrations (NT) of this taking place. Zacchaeus is a primary example. But both Jesus and Paul would agree with Luther and others that the natural man does not have the capacity to do anything to change his thinking and behavior. First the natural man must be changed . . . "born again". And when this is the case, then a new factor has been brought into the picture, one that breaks the pattern of lives determined and destined to do evil . . . lives that cannot do good.

Coming back to our text. Paul is not naive or stupid. Certainly he gives all sorts of admonitions, but let us note that he gives these commands to a very select group of people viz., to "God's chosen ones." This is a real difference. He is not telling the unbeliever to do these things because he knows that only the person who has been "born of the spirit" has the God-given power to make decisions to do things such as these. Paul wouldn't expect Caesar to do these things . . . nor the money hungry merchant. Jesus would not expect it of Pilate or Caiaphas, or Judas. Both Paul and Jesus confined admonitions to the inner circle of the "followers in the Way" understanding that man must possess the new capacity (The Holy Spirit), or he is a slave to his passions, lusts, and desires, from which he can in no wise set himself free.

Understanding this, we are in better position to see that as Christians we are under obligation . . . obligations which we can and must fulfill. Because we have been exposed to, and become a part of God's enduring plan of love for us, we stand in position to be asked . . . "Put on compassion, lowliness, meekness, and patience." And if we counter by saying . . . "I can't forgive all of the things my enemies have done against me" . . . Paul would counter . . . "Yes you can because you have a new nature with new capacities . . . your new nature can harbor the power of the Holy Spirit . . . The Holy Spirit dwelling within you can give you the power to do these things. You are without excuse.

Now we are slaves again. As we were slaves to our original nature (to Satan) now we have become "slaves of God." And, the Christian finds how difficult it can be to escape the meaning of this slavery. See Luther's words on this matter: "In a word, if we be under the god of this world, without the operation and Spirit of God, we are led captives by him at his will, as Paul says (2 Tim. 2:26): 'So that, we cannot will any thing but that which he wills. For he is that "strong man armed", who so keepeth his palace, that those whom he holds captive are kept in peace, that they might not cause any motion or feeling against him; otherwise, the kingdom of Satan, is being divided against itself.'" For, when we are lacking in compassion, when we are unkind, and hateful, then we are filled with pangs of judgment that make us anxious, restless and quite unhappy. It is only in facing Christian admonitions that we come to experience "the peace of God that passes all human understanding."

FRUITS ON THE "MERGER TREE"

New Preschool Curriculum Brings Help for Teachers and Parents.

By Wilson C. Egbert

Nursery and Kindergarten children will begin to taste the first fruits of merger in the ALC, ELC and UELC this fall. After two years of working together, committee members from the ALC and ELC made a joint announcement of a fall "ready date" for the new Bible Storytime Series. Committee members for the ELC were Miss Della Olson and Miss Estelle Griffen from the Department of Christian Education. Committee members for the ALC were Dr. C. E. Linder, editor-in-chief of Sunday school materials for the ALC and the Rev. Wilson C. Egbert, managing editor of the series.

Nursery and Kindergarten children will have fifty-two brand new color paintings to adorn their materials. Mrs. Stryker Ingerman, whose illustrations have appeared in Augsburg's **Christmas Annual**, created a series of very simple drawings for the **Nursery Cards**. The Bible story appears on the back of each card, so parents can tell the Bible story to their children at home. A similar series of new pictures was created for the **Kindergarten Leaflets**. Mrs. Gustav Krollmann of Minneapolis created the new color pictures while Mr. Arthur F. Schminke did all the black and white work for these four page lessons. All the art work will have a "new look" because an effort was made to look at each Bible story from the point of interest to the small child.

Nursery and Kindergarten teachers will have separate **Teacher's Guides**. Some new layout devices are being used to make the lessons readily accessible for reference and for study. Music is provided in a fully harmonized setting and full instructions are furnished to the teacher for activity programs with the small tots.

Teachers will appreciate the fact that sixteen pictures have been chosen from each set of color paintings for use as enlarged teaching pictures. Each unit of work is represented by at least one picture, and wherever possible arrangements were made to avoid duplication of the pictures chosen.

Perhaps the most unusual feature of the series is the development which characterized the **Parent's Manual**. In addition to the regular Bible study expected in our adult classes, these **Manuals** include extensive references to the home situation. Parents of preschool children normally have more opportunity to teach their children than they will have in later years. Competition with

school assignments and activities has not yet begun. The relationship to the child is also much closer. A **Teacher's Guide** of some length is also provided for each group.

Creating a series like this one calls for the effort of a great many people. Writers came from all over the synods who are now involved in merger negotiations. Among those writers was Miss Anne Christensen of Lincoln, Nebraska, member of the UELC.

Preparing a series like this one is an extremely involved affair. Besides the basic planning which goes into it, a great deal of care must be exercised in making of the series an effective teaching tool, a sound Christian witness, and a pleasing product to the child. Literally thousands of changes are carried into the manuscript from the time when it is first received until the printed pages are placed before the church. Reviews reflect the reaction of the churches involved long before publication. Hundreds of parents shared in the tests of the material. As nearly as we can, we have sought to make this material fit the needs of our constituent churches, and of our parishes large and small.

To help introduce the materials, the Parish Education Department of the ALC and the Department of Christian Education of the ELC plan to teach meetings and sample lessons from this course at their summer institutes. Present plans call for sample lessons to be used at these institutes which will give those present a better understanding of the Bible Storytime Series. Additional help will also be given in the teaching magazine of the churches involved. Early in the summer a sample mailing is planned.

Now that the goal is in sight for Year I, writing and art work is proceeding on the second year of the series. When it's all done, a total of 208 new full color paintings will have been finished, about 500 black and white pictures completed, 20-25 nursery and kindergarten songs created, 208 Bible stories carefully written, lessons prepared for teachers and parents, and 64 teaching pictures made available to our Sunday schools. More than 3000 printed pages are involved for the publication. Augsburg Publishing House and The Wartburg Press. If that sounds like a job—it is. But we feel it's worth all the work that goes into it—for with the new Bible Storytime Series the children of our churches will really have begun their merger.



THE WEEK AT DANA

your midcontinent college

HONOR SOCIETY BEING FORMED

ected students have met with a group of faculty
pers to plan for an honor society at Dana. In
to qualify for membership in the new organiza-
student must have maintained a 7.5 (of a possible
or above grade average.

se invited to become charter members are Mary
ndrews, Blair, Nebr.; Betty Christensen, Green
Wis.; David W. Larsen, Chicago, Ill.; Ann Lind-
Swannanoa, N. Car.; Delores Petersen, Parsons,
; David Smith, Blair, Nebr.; Charlotte Sorensen,
Nebr.; Darol Valder, Blair, Nebr.; Dorothy Will-
Kansas City, Mo.; and Nina Yauch, Lathrup
ge, Mich.

ere are to be three levels of membership in the
ization: associate, active, and life. Those students
become associate members must first receive an
tion from the society. After two semesters of as-
e membership, the students may present a

scholarly paper to the organization. If it is accepted,
the student becomes an active member. Upon gradua-
tion and the writing of an honor paper, the graduate
receives the distinction of life membership in the honor
society.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

In these days when colleges are burdened with increas-
ed costs of operation and when many a small college is
trying desperately to expand, it is encouraging to
receive special gifts from friends.

From Atonement Lutheran Church of Chicago Dana
has received a check for \$1,500 over and above that
congregation's quota to the synodical budget for the
college. The generous gift is to be used to help strength-
en the educational program of the college.

Recently an elderly friend in Blair sent a check for
\$500 for the Student Loan Fund. This is the third
check received this school year for that fund. Others
have given \$1,000 and \$300.

CONGRATULATIONS, SISTER COLLEGE

Congratulations to Dana's sister, Grand View College
of Des Moines, Ia., upon the occasion of ground breaking
for a beautiful new Science Hall on that campus. We
are children of a common mother and rejoice with
you!

BOOK REVIEW

books reviewed may be ordered
Lutheran Publishing House, 200
Fifth Street, Blair, Nebraska.

Theology of Calvin

William Niesel, translated by
d Knight, Westminster Press,
ages, \$3.00.

now that many a pastor would
to have Calvin's theology in
ort and readable form. This
t help him in his study and
arison of the doctrines of the
mation. The present volume
to be such a great help for
rdinary pastor. The book is
od English with no for-
language quotations to speak
have read samples of the book
and there such as on sin, on
Scriptures, on man, on the
ments, etc. I find the chapters
and to the point. I believe
book will find many readers
g pastors who seriously seek
n a deeper knowledge of the
ian faith.—J.M.J.

The Middle East

By Edward J. Jurji, Westminster
Press, 159 pages, \$3.00.

This book is very much needed
right now. It will help the reader
of the daily news to get the mean-
ing behind the present day events.
The author himself is from the Mid-
dle East. He became an American
citizen in 1947, and he is a member
of the faculty of Princeton Univer-
sity. The author discusses the Mid-
dle East, its culture and religion in
this book. He deals with Christ-
ianity, Islam and Judaism. A very
worthwhile book just now.—J.M.J.

—IN REMEMBRANCE OF OUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES

We give them back to Thee, Dear
Lord, who gavest them to us.
Yet, as Thou dost not lose them in
giving, so we have not lost them
by their return.

Not as the world giveth, givest Thou,
O Lover of Souls.

What Thou gavest, Thou takest not
away; for what is Thine, is ours
always, if we are Thine.

And life is Eternal and Love is
immortal.

And Death is only a horizon, and a
horizon is nothing save the limit
of our sight.

Lift us up, Strong Son of God, that
we may see farther.

Cleanse our eyes that we may see
more clearly

Draw us closer to Thyself, that we
may know ourselves nearer to our
beloved who are with Thee.

And while Thou dost prepare a
place for us, prepare us too for
that happy place, that where they
are, and Thou art, we too may be.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

—Attributed to Bishop Brent

Quoted in The London Churchman

THE LUTHER LEAGUE

John W. Nielsen, Editor

Luther League Activities At the Foot of the Rockies

Brush, Colorado: Leaguers of the First English Evangelical Lutheran Church of Brush presented a Youth Sunday program Sunday evening, February 24. Two talks on the Luther League topic, "The Truth Shall Make You Free," were given by Duane Kjeldaard and Kenneth Marble.

Duane spoke on the subtopic, "Leaguers Are Disciples of Christ" and emphasized that as disciples they learn how to follow Christ. The area where this is done may be the school athletic locker room where the air can be blue with profanity. Leaguers know the truth about Christ and either learn how to persuade their teammates to talk otherwise or by their conduct show that they are disciples. Kenny, whose topic was, "Leaguers Have Freedom," told the group that Christian young people are not bound by "do's" and "don't's" because they understand the need for laws and regulations. The essence of freedom is the ability to choose. Leaguers choose the right things willingly because they are followers of Christ.

Judy Staby reported on the League's activities as part of the church. Supper meetings are held every other Sunday night followed by devotions. The League choir serves the congregation by singing every Sunday. It also furnished special music for the spiritual life preaching mission held February 17-20. Leaguers also serve the congregation in the community by Christian example, and many meetings of the League during the year are concerned with how better to do that.

Corinne Kostman, League president, was chairman for the program and made the appeal for the offering. Inez Schmer introduced the League topic and told of coming League activities—the Youth Convention in Fresno in June and the youth section of the Lutheran World Federation Assembly in Minneapolis in August. Several musical numbers were included in the program which was closed by the League singing the benediction as arranged by P. C. Lutkin.

A circuit rally together with the Denver leagues is being planned for April 28. Five Leaguers are planning to go to the Fresno convention. Of twenty-eight leaguers in Brush High School, fifteen are honor roll students. Eddie and Duane Kjeldaard were chosen Colorado all state high school team football players for the 1956 season. Corinne Kostman has been awarded one of the Colorado D.A.R. scholarships.

West Canada District Prints Paper

Innisfail, Alberta: The following description of the West Canada District's Luther League paper comes from the District Secretary, Eleanor Pedersen.

"With a final bang the paper was finished. The cubs had just done their good deed for the day and finished stapling the last of the papers together. This was the first issue of our spanking new 'newspaper' for the West Canada District Luther League. It consisted of half a dozen mimeographed typewriter papers stapled together. (Nothing very unusual about that.) With a background of Christian symbols the cover had LEAGUER spread across it. The following issues contained news items from several of the leagues and indirectly furnished other leagues with some ideas for League programs; gave us the latest news developments for improving our Bible camp and greetings from pastors and our W. C. D. Luther League President. The first issue was a success—many leaguers have expressed their approval but they say the next issue should be bigger—much bigger."

Leaguers Observe Youth Sunday Distribute Promotional Materials

Northfield, Minnesota: The Luther League at Peter's Lutheran Church observed Youth Sunday on March 3 with the leaguers conducting the entire service with the exception of certain portions which were conducted by one of the deacons.

Larry Nielsen, Northfield High student body president, spoke on "The Truth Shall Make You Free." Ruth Holt spoke on "You Are Free To Come To Christ." Erlene Nelson presented the various projects of the Luther League on both the local and synodical levels.

Early in February the Luther League distributed promotional materials to the residents of southeast Northfield and acquainted them with the plans and program of St. John's Lutheran Church which is relocating in their area.

On March 10 the Junior Luther League went to the Junior Luther League of St. John's Lutheran Church (ELC). Courtney Nystuen, a Senior 1 student who attends St. Olaf, spoke on "What Is A Christian?"



Leaguers Attend Youth Rally

utchtinson, Minnesota: The above-pictured group of young people and adults from Main Street Lutheran Church attended the Lutheran Youth Rally at the Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis on Saturday night, February 16. Speaker for the evening was Dr. Ar Hanson.

YOUTH OFFICE BULLETIN BOARD

March 31 marks the end of the fiscal year of our Synodical Luther League. All local Luther League treasurers are asked to forward any funds they have which are intended for the General Fund or the Mission Fund of the Synodical Luther League to their District Treasurer. District treasurers in turn send it to the Synodical Treasurer, Mr. Stanley Hansen, Route 1, Blair, Nebraska. But please hurry!

On March 1, 1957, we lacked \$1,584.43 in meeting our budget for the general fund. Your cooperation in balancing the budget by March 31 will be greatly appreciated.

DELEGATES TO FRESNO

Have you elected your delegates to the convention in Fresno, June 27-30? If not, this should be done now so that the delegates will have time to make plans for the trip.

The Luck, Wisconsin Luther League reports that Sandy Lawson and Geneva Hansen have been chosen to represent them at Fresno. They will each receive \$75 from the league and the church to help pay their expenses. Nice going, Luck. We believe that every league should send one or more delegates. You are entitled to 1 for each 20 members of your league, or fraction thereof. We urge all leagues to pay at least a good share of the expenses of their delegates. If you can assist others who are not delegates so much the better.

CALIFORNIA—HERE WE COME

International Luther League Convention

Fresno, California - June 27-30, 1957

"THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE"

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

General Union:

Convention theme song: "A Mighty Fortress"; theme chorus: "For God so Loved The World."

Outstanding Youth Speakers:

Dr. Marcus Rieke, ALC Youth Director, Dr. William Larsen, UELC President, and others.

Christ's Truth For The Nations:

The challenge of missions as presented by Missionary Paul Johnsen.

Youth Banquet:

A dress-up occasion with a message on "The Price of Freedom."

Mass Outdoor Youth Rally:

Young Christians of many denominations will unite in witness to the Christ Who frees.

National Park Visit:

A planned tour of one of California's National Parks.

Send your registration now to **COMMITTEE ON REGISTRATIONS**, Grace Lutheran Church, 4845 East Clare, Fresno, California. Leaguers of the San Joaquin Valley and all pastors and counsellors included, \$2.50; other leaguers, \$5.00. May 25 is the deadline.

REGISTRATION BLANK

Name Street City State
 Age Grade in School Boy Girl Home telephone
 Name of Church Name of your Pastor
 Method of transportation Arriving, Date Hour
 Pastor.... Youth Board Member.... Counselor.... Advisor.... I enclose \$.... Check.... Money Order....

Fresno, Calif.

INTERNATIONAL LUTHER LEAGUE CONVENTION

June 27-30, 1957

BY THE FIRESIDE

BAD THINGS GOOD

It is good to be weary, for then we
seek rest,
And we find it at last as we lean on
His breast;
It is well to be lonely, for thus we
may prove
That this Saviour can fill every void
with His love.

It is good to be weak so that thus
we may turn
To the Strong One for help, and His
mightiness learn;
It is well if we find that the desert
is drear,
It is thus we are taught that our
home is not here.

It is good when our burdens are
heavy to bear,
If they send us to Him and they drive
us to prayer;
Every need is a boon, every sorrow
is blest,
When it leads us to put His great
love to the test.

—Anon.

THE LITTLE THINGS

Watch for the little things
That brighten any day;
The color of a bird's swift wings,
The lovely jeweled spray
Of leaves when they are spangled wet
With dew, and not the grass
Running like music—watch the white
High-flying clouds that pass.
Watch for the kindly deeds
That you alone can do;
Help ever with the simple needs
Of loved ones nearest you.
And when the day with all it brings
Has swiftly passed away,
'Twill be the little simple things
That made a lovely day.

—Grace Noll Crowell

WHITE HOUSE BLESSING

Engraved in gold on the new black
marble fireplace in the formal dining
room at the White House is a blessing
written for the White House by
President John Adams in 1800, "I
pray Heaven to bestow the best of
blessings on this house and on all
that shall hereafter inhabit it. May
none but honest and wise men ever
rule under this roof."

The blessing was originally placed
on the old stone fireplace in the same
room at the instigation of President
F. D. Roosevelt, but after the White
House decoration it was discarded
until President Eisenhower recently
asked to have it restored.

—Gospel Herald

"And then," said the witness, "my
wife hit me with an oak leaf." The
judge said that couldn't hurt very
much. "Well, you see," explained the
fellow, "the leaf was from the center
of our dining room table."

THIS IS TODAY

Today is here, I will start with a
smile and resolve to be agreeable.
I will not criticize. I refuse to waste
my valuable time.

Today has one thing in which I
know I am equal with others—time.
All of us draw the same salary in
seconds, minutes, hours.

Today I will not waste my time,
because the minutes I wasted yester-
day are as lost as a vanished thought.

Today I refuse to spend time worry-
ing about what might happen. I am
going to spend my time making things
happen.

Today I am determined to study to
improve myself, for tomorrow I
may be wanted, and I must not be
found lacking.

Today I am determined to do things
I should do. I formerly determined
to stop doing the things I should
not do.

Today I begin my doing, and not
wasting my time. In one week I
will be miles beyond the person I
am today.

Today I will not imagine what I
would do if things were different.
They are not different. I will make
success with what material I have.

Today I will stop saying, "If I had
time," for I never will "find time"
for anything—if I want time I must
take it.

Today I will act toward other peo-
ple as though this might be my last
day on earth. I will not wait for
tomorrow. Tomorrow never comes.

—North Shore Baptist

A CURE FOR MISERY

"When you find yourself overpo-
wed with melancholy," said a ss
man, "the best way is to go out
do something kind to somebody
other. Thousands who today are
ting daily in the gloom of a
created misery would soon lose
they began to care for others."
quaint writer says concerning
"When I dig a man out of the
I turn the hole he leaves be-
him into a grave in which I bury
own trouble."

POWER TO DIE

During the last war a boy of 17
refused to join the Nazi youth re-
ment because he was a Christian.

"Don't you know that we have
power to kill you?" they said.

"Don't you know," he replied qu-
"that I have power to die for Ch-
—Our

ENTERING CHURCH

Heat and burden of the day,
Help us, Lord, to put away.
Let no crowding, treading car-
Keep earthbound our spirit's pra-
Carping criticism take
From our heart for Jesus' sa-
In these holy hours that we
Spend in fellowship with Thee
Search us keenly, Lord, we pr-
Lest we leave Thy house toda-
Through our stubbornness, unfe-
By the true and living bread.
Make us over! Make us kind,
Let no lonely stranger find
Lack of friendship handclasp,
Pass unwelcomed through the c-
Let the whole week sweeter be-
For these hours we spend with
—Bertha G. W.

A farmer was explaining to a
woman what a menace insects
to farm products—how potato
ruin potato crops and corn b-
destroy corn. The woman lis-
attentively, then exclaimed: "And
poor dairy people! How the bu-
flies must bother them!"

From Italy comes this story
successful and influential bus-
man who lay dying. Summonin-
best friend to his bedside, he
ited from him a promise to see
his mortal remains be cremated.
friend agreed, but asked cauti-
and with deep reverence: "And
would you want me to do with
ashes!

"The ashes?" from the dying
"You will place them in an env-
addressed to the Collector of I-
nal Revenue, and tell him that
he has everything."

STAY AT HOME

(continued from page 1)

to be constantly puttering about house is still not the kind of life of which I am writing. It seems to most of us old-fashioned queer if we set aside a definite period of the day in which to meditate.

While "thinking can be dull, it can be a glorious and exciting venture," to quote from Justice Wendell Holmes, who was a master of the art of staying at

The first experiments in thinking actively will probably result in startling failure. "That brain of mine will be hopping all over the place," Arnold Bennett wrote, "and at the same time it hops, you must bring it back by force to its original position. The mind can be conquered only by leaving it idle, undirected, powerless, to play at random like a ball in the streets after dark."

It might help us to realize that thinking, after all, is only a process of talking to oneself—intelligently. When you learn to talk to yourself honestly, you will, if you persevere, find it a lively pastime. You will be forced to talk to yourself about things important. The reason conversation is at such a low ebb just now will be that we do not know how to talk to ourselves.

Isolated alone in your room, you are forced to talk to yourself. You have a number of vague notions about war, for instance, but you have never held a conversation with yourself about it. At last—I have.

You must be exact—marshaling your arguments, reconnoitering the subject, weighing contentions against each other. At the end of the evening you will be weary, but you will be better able to talk to others the next day!

Staying at home is not always a matter of grimly edifying. Much has been said in favor of purposive reading—reading with some lofty purpose—but there is also reading with the sole object of enjoyment. It might be well to let a while we allayed our itch for reading and came to realize that there is a great deal of sport in the contacts of the mind with new ideas, in the repartee of great authors, in the free play of the mind with books and essays.

Reading for fun by no means implies that the reading matter must be frothy. I can imagine that some folks would find reading philosophy for enjoyment. Others could take history, others science, but in any case they would read out of any compulsion, even the personally imposed requirement of getting over so many pages.

It is a struggle to learn any art, and more of a struggle to master it.

That cannot be done in ten easy lessons. Suppose that you and I give it a fair trial. We shall surely find that the art of staying at home is important enough to be worth further effort. Its cultivation helps solidify family life, stabilize our thinking, tone us up generally, and develop self-sufficiency and serenity.

What is required most of all is the realization that the gadabouts are missing something—that the satisfactions of a flea are greatly exaggerated. He is a happy man who has simplified his tastes to the point where a good book and a fire and a quiet evening are for him not a chore—or a sign of increasing age—but a preference and a badge of wisdom and distinction.

Christian Advocate

BOOK REVIEWS

All books reviewed may be ordered from Lutheran Publishing House, 200 South Fifth Street, Blair, Nebraska.

Encyclopedia of Morals

Edited by Vergilus Ferm, Philosophical Library, 682 pages, \$10.00.

I have found this book very interesting and helpful. Here the great moral and ethical systems are presented often together with the men that were leaders of the religious or philosophical systems. We have the morals of the most noted Indian tribes as well as those of the Soviet Union sketched. Of course the book is not perfect in every way. You look for "Lutheranism" and find only "See Puritan Morals." You turn to Puritan Morals and find nothing about Lutheranism. But it is a good and handy book to have on the shelf.

Entrusted with the Gospel

By David A. MacLennan, Westminster Press, 128 pages, \$2.00.

This author has a delightful way of writing about great subjects in an interesting manner. I read his first book, "Pastoral Preaching," with great interest, and I have read this with the same interest. There are five lectures to pastors to help them do their job better. This book will be welcomed by all pastors and theological students.

—J.M.J.

Counseling and Theology

By William E. Hulme, Muhlenberg Press, 250 pages, \$3.00.

The author of this book is well known and the subject is a popular one. The author discusses the need for a listener, the need for confession, the need for understanding, and nine other interesting chapters. In these days when many a soul is distressed, this book comes as a help to the pastor who

wants to be a better shepherd to his people.

The Times Test the Church

By Frederick K. Wentz, Muhlenberg Press, 154 pages, \$1.95.

I took this book with me to bed one evening, and I read it before I fell asleep. It is a very timely study. Let me mention the five chapter headings: Where do we stand in Christian History? Are Christians winning the World? Are Christians closing Ranks? Is Protestantism Moulding America? Is America in the Midst of a Revival? The author does not attempt to answer all questions, but he gives us suggestions and ideas that carry us along in our thinking. We cannot get away from the fact that even in optimistic America with a constant growth of the number of church members, that the times test the church.

Fast Falls the Eventide

By Olle Nystedt, Augustana Press, 96 pages, \$2.00.

This is a fine little book of 30 good devotional chapters by a well-known Swedish writer, translated into English. The printing is large and therefore it is a book that will be welcomed by older people. Certainly a fine gift.

To Enjoy God

By Ruth Muirhead Berry, Muhlenberg Press, 228 pages, \$3.50.

The fly leaf of the book has this quotation; "Using a light human style, she lets us see life through her eyes as a child on an Iowa farm, as a home missionary in Alabama, as the wife of an author and mother of three children, and as a widow working as a receptionist in a mental hospital in Utah." This gives the readers an idea of the book written by a Christian woman. She is a Protestant Christian with no strong denominational leanings. When she relates the events of her life, we find that ordinary events well written become very interesting. It made me think of the many women in our churches now, many of them with college training. Perhaps a little prodding may make them start to write. We do need some good short stories to The Ansgar Lutheran. —J.M.J.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

	Total Received	Chil- dren's Homes	School Fund	General Fund	Home Mission	Indian Mission	P sh F
Previously acknowledged (March 9, 1957)	1210697.67	17021.56	70821.03	29575.72	48943.42	7149.33	371
Co. Bluffs, Iowa, Our Savior's Luth. Church	500.00	30.00	210.00	50.00	105.00	10.00	
Graettinger, Ia., St. Paul Luth. Church, From friends and relatives of Mr. John Graettinger of Graettinger, Iowa \$30 and from friends and relatives of Mr. Tommy Thompson of Wallingford, Iowa \$27.50	57.50			57.50			
St. Paul, Nebr., St. Mark's Luth. Church	100.00	6.00	42.00	10.00	21.00	2.00	
Oaks, Okla., Ebenezer Memorial Luth. Church	350.00	15.00	175.00	60.00	100.00		
Cedar Falls, Ia., Nazareth Luth. Church	750.00	45.00	315.00	76.00	157.00	15.00	1
McCabe, Mont., Ebenezer Luth. Church from Mr. and Mrs. Jorgen Smith	10.00						
Brooklyn, New York, Salem Danish Ev. Luth. S. S.	51.11	51.11					
Denver, Colo., Christ the King Ev. Luth. Church	85.00	5.00	35.00	10.00	17.00	2.00	
Kansas City, Kan., Westwood Luth. Church	146.50	9.00	61.00	14.50	31.00	3.00	
Racine, Wis., Emmaus Ev. Luth. Church	1000.00	60.00	420.00	100.00	210.00	20.00	1
Milton, Mass., From Mr. and Mrs. Panduro Rasmussen in memory of Anton Clausen, member of Bethany Congregation, Boston, Mass.	5.00				5.00		
Coon Rapids, Ia., Immanuel Luth. Congregation from Mr. and Mrs. Martinus Pedersen in memory of Pastor J. Rasmussen	10.00			10.00			
Green Bay, Wis., Bethel Ev. Luth. Church	274.76	16.00	115.00	29.76	57.00	5.00	
Shorewood, Wis., Kingo Ev. Luth. Church	300.00	18.00	126.00	30.00	63.00	6.00	
San Francisco, Calif., Ansgar Luth. Church from Mr. J. P. Andersen in memory of his son Rev. A. P. Andersen	25.00						
Evan, Minn., St. Mathew's Luth. Church in memory of Delmer Johansen from Mr. and Mrs. Christ Madsen \$2, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Fanken \$1, Mrs. Anna Anderson \$1, Miss Augusta and Edna Hanson 1, Mr. and Mrs. Arnie Christensen \$2, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Christensen \$2	9.00				9.00		
Coulter, Ia., Nazareth Luth. Church	650.00	39.00	273.00	66.00	136.00	13.00	11
Rockfield, So. Dak., St. Paul Luth. Church from the South Circle	50.00		30.00		10.00		
Castro Valley, Calif., Faith Luth. Church	264.41	16.00	121.00	12.41	60.00	5.00	
Luck, Wis., St. Peter's Luth. Church Ladies Aid, From the Ladies Aid in memory of Mrs. A. H. Jensen, Spencer, Ia.	10.00				10.00		
Eugene, Ore., Emmaus Luth. Church in memory of Randall Clint Livingston from Betty Livingston 4, Dorcas Needle Club \$5, Emmaus S. S. \$5, and Elsie and Louise Elgaard \$6	25.00	25.00		2.50			
From the Church	75.00		31.00	5.00	15.00	10.00	
Blair, Nebr., Women's Missionary Society Synodical Treasurer:							
From Elim Guild, Petaluma, Calif., W.M.S. Silver Anniv.	5.00		2.50		2.50		
From Mary Martha Circle, Petaluma, Calif., for W.M.S. Silver Anniv.	20.00		10.00		10.00		
First Luth. Guild, Blair, Nebr.	100.00						11
Ladies Aid of Our Savior's Luth. Church, Staplehurst, Nebr., for Parish Worker, Salt Lake City, Utah	12.50				12.50		
From the Willing Workers of First English Luth. Church, rush, Colo., Parish Worker, Salt Lake City, Utah	20.00				20.00		
W.M.S. Silver Anniv. from the Sunshine Circle, Dannebrog, Nebr., \$21, Eben-Ezer W.M.S., Brush, Colo., \$24.80; Willing Workers, First English Luth., Brush, Colo., \$18; Ladies Aid, Our Savior's Luth., Staplehurst, Nebr., \$13, Bethany Luth. Ladies Aid, Orum, Nebr., \$3, Dannevirke Ladies Aid, Elba, Nebr., \$5; and First English Luth. Miss. Society, Brush, Colo., \$56	140.80		70.40		70.40		
Portland, Me., from the Atlantic Dist. of the U.E.L.C. in memory of Miss Ada Andersen	25.00		25.00				
Blair, Nebr., From Mr. and Mrs. Elmer N. Johnson in memory of Mr. Fred Blatt, Berkeley, Calif.	2.00				2.00		
Shelby, Ia., Un. Ev. Luth. Church	100.00	6.00	42.00	10.00	21.00	2.00	
Total received to date	215873.75	17362.67	72924.93	30119.39	50087.82	7242.33	381
1956-57 Budget	339317.00	19404.00	143083.00	32103.00	70662.00	7800.00	663
Percentages (approximate)	100 Pct.	.06	.42	.10	.21	.02	

	Total (Where Received Needed)	Foreign Missions	1956 Luth. World Action	South Amer. Mission	Japan Mission	Santal Mission	Sudan Mission	Jewish Mission	CH Mission
Previously acknowledged (March 9, 1957)	17157.92	2108.31	1853.37	3044.87	2937.50	1852.05	4943.29	288.11	11
Plainview, Nebr., From Mrs. J. Will Jensen in memory of cousin Rev. Joseph Rasmussen, Scranton, Ia.	10.00			10.00					
Denver, Colo., Christ the King Ev. Luth. Church	164.22		164.22						
Hussar, Canada, Our Saviour's Comm. Luth. S. S.	15.23								
Hussar, Canada, Our Saviour's Comm. Luth. Church Junior Miss.	10.00						15.23	10.00	
Evan, Minn., St. Mathew's Luth. Church from Mr. Norman Nelson in memory of Delmer Johansen	2.00		2.00						
Co. Bluffs, Ia., Our Savior's Luth. Church from the Dorcas Circle Women of the Church for the training of a native Evangelist	100.00						100.00		
Poy Sippl, Wis., First Luth. Church S. S.	26.36			26.36					
Castro Valley, Calif., Faith Luth. Church	90.00		90.00						
Coulter, Ia., Nazareth Luth. Ladies Aid	24.78			24.78					
Blair, Nebr., Synodical Women's Missionary Society Treasurer:									
From Olivet Women of the Church, Los Angeles, Calif., for the Literature Fund	15.00			15.00					
From Olivet Women of the Church, Los Angeles, Calif., for the training of Eurastus Sashi	75.00						75.00		
From Bethany Luth. Ladies Aid, Plainview, Nebr., for Margaret Nissen's salary	24.70								
From First Luth. Guild, Blair, Nebr.	100.00						24.70		
and for Margaret Nissen's salary	100.00			100.00					
From the Ladies Aid of Our Savior's Luth. Church, Staplehurst, Nebr., for Margaret Nissen's salary	12.50						100.00		
From Willing Workers of First Eng. Luth. Brush, Colo., for Margaret Nissen's salary	80.00						12.50		
From Dorcas Ladies Aid of Westwood Luth., Kansas City, Kan., for Margaret Nissen's salary	25.00						80.00		
From Bethany Ladies Aid, Minden, Nebr., in memory of Mr. Albert Bjorklund for Margaret Nissen's salary	3.00						25.00		
From First Bethany Luth. W.M.S., Denver, Colo., for Hungarian Relief	25.00		25.00				3.00		
Portland, Me., from the Atlantic Dist. of the U.E.L.C.	150.00						150.00		
Total received since Jan. 1, 1957	18210.71	2108.31	2134.59	3221.01	2937.50	1852.05	5538.72	288.11	11
1957 Budget	114018.64		49718.64	16000.00	23300.00	8000.00	17000.00		
Percentages (approximate)	100 Pct.		.44	.14	.20	.07	.15		

Received with thanks.

Blair, Nebraska March 16, 1957.

P. V. Hansen, Treasurer

EDITORIALS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from page 3)

him a chance to discuss church life with some visitors and also to go with our laymen on visita-

Hougaard is pastor in the Church Army, an organization with workers among the underprivileged. He has about 1000 such families in Aarhus, a city of 150,000. He is attached to a church, St. Paul's, where he preaches three times a month. His salary is thus paid by the state. His main task is to work with the families and to try to win them for Christ and his church. The Church Army has a building and a parish hall as headquarters for the work.

Five full time workers have charge of the work at Aarhus. The Church Army is a large organization with a budget of \$2,500,000 a year. It works in the ten largest cities in Denmark.

We have written at length about this because pastors in this country may also be able to avail themselves of the exchange program. They can go to Denmark or some other country and work, if a congregation will sponsor them. Thus they may get a deeper knowledge of the church life in the state church.

Pastor Hougaard was very interested in the work at Spencer and the P T R. He speaks English, and it is of course essential that an exchange worker should have knowledge of the language of the country where he desires to go.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from page 2)

We learned long ago for her touching and eloquent words. Dr. Jersild stressed the Christ-ianities of the departed: her hum-ility; her unquestioning faith; her gentleness and tenderness; her unfailing attendance when health and strength were permitted; her long and faith-ful service in the church and the Wo-men's Society; and her Christian ex-pression as a mother.

Christoffersen leaves not only a place in our church but also a place in our hearts. She was one of the pioneers who helped build the church into being and the spirit of service and self-help helped to perpetuate it. We will find in her example a source of in-spiration for the many tasks that lie

Mont. Rev. Ejvind Nielsen of the congregation had its Christmas for many years. He made the Christmas and New Year activities very pleasant. Bible classes were conducted every other week. The congregation joined with 30 other congregations of the area in celebrating the Brush Lake Resort opening the Brush Lake Bible Association.

Resort is located twenty miles from Reserve, Mont., or seven miles from Grenora, N. Dak.

Idt, Iowa. Rev. Wesley M. Jensen, pastor. Trinity Church was at capacity to hear the Dana team, March 3rd, when it was the first of the morning service.

Mr. Paul Phankuch was the speaker and the songs by the quartette were much appreciated. The church has just been redecorated and new pews are expected to be placed in the church by Easter.

PASTOR JOSEPH RASMUSSEN SUMMONED

Joseph Rasmussen, who for a number of years was pastor in the U.E.L.C. was suddenly called away from the present life on February 2. A memorial service was held at Scranton, Iowa on February 26 and on the day following the committal service was held at Kennard, Nebr.

Rev. Rasmussen was born in Chicago, Ill. on February 4, 1887. While still a child, his parents pioneered first in the State of Wyoming and later at Plainview, Nebr. At Plainview he farmed for a limited time till he became conscious of God's call to the gospel ministry.

Following his ordination at Cedar Falls, Iowa in 1919 he served pastorates at Green Bay, Wis., at Kennard and Washington, Nebr., at Hartland, Wis., at Lindsay and Genoa, Nebr., and at Scranton and Coon Rapids, Iowa.

Because of failing eyesight he left the parish ministry in 1939 and took up farming in the Scranton community.

Together with his wife, Nina Carolina Carlsen of Kennard, Nebr. he built a Christian home and reared five sons and two daughters.

Besides his wife and children, he leaves to mourn him two sisters and two brothers in California and many friends among the clergy as well as among the lay people of the Synod.

Rev. Rasmussen was raised in a period when the Church emphasized experience religion and personal Christianity. His own experience of Christianity led from playing the fiddle on the dance floor to preaching the gospel.

At the memorial service at Scranton, a number of pastors from the Iowa District were present and the District President, C. M. Videbeck, expressed words of appreciation. At the committal service at Kennard a number of pastors from the Nebraska District were present and the Synodical President, Wm. Larsen, expressed words of appreciation. The services were conducted by the pastor of the Rasmussen family.

WISCONSIN W.M.S.

Pastor W. E. Wicklund of Redemption Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, and former Missionary to India, will be the main speaker at the Wisconsin W. M. S. Circuit meetings. Miss Pearl Hegge, parish worker, Kingo Lutheran Church, Milwaukee will be present at the evening meetings to show pictures and tell of her trip to the Holy Land.

Between the sessions a Fellowship Supper will be served followed by a short meeting of all W.M.S. presidents, led by the state president, Mrs. Merrill Paulsen. Miss Margaret Miller, national W.M.S. president will also give a greeting during one of the sessions.

The Northern Circuit will meet April 7 at Oshkosh, Wisconsin and the Southern Circuit will meet April 28 at the Emmaus Ev. Lutheran Church, corner of Yout and Summit, Racine Wisconsin. The afternoon meetings will begin at 3:30.

Prayer is requested for God's blessing upon the work at our W.M.S. and upon these two very important rallies.

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